

April 8, 2023

WPEL-FM
Quarterly Issues / Programs List
First Quarter 2023
January 1 through March 31, 2023

On page 2 is a list of some of the community issues covered during the first quarter of 2023, January 1 through March 31, 2023.

Pages, 3-15, describe the specific programs, including their source, type, time, duration and a brief description, broadcast in response to the issues listed on page 2.

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1. Education and Broadband Access
2. Agriculture and Environmental Issues
3. Elder Issues
4. Drug and Alcohol Issues
5. Community Activities and Issues
6. Health Issues
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Issue No. 1: Education and Broadband Issues

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 1 minute 15 seconds
Date: 02/05/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

During this Black History Month, a resolution in the PA state Senate recognizes a major figure in the anti-slavery movement who once made his home in Philadelphia. [williamStill-1.mp3] Sen. Art Haywood delivered his remarks honoring William Still on the site of his last known home in what is now Center City Philadelphia. [williamStill-3.mp3] Still was regarded as the "President of the Underground Railroad," helping hundreds who escaped slavery make their way to freedom from his home in Philadelphia, between 1850 and 1855.

Program Title: Special Assignment
Source/Type: Local/Public Affairs
Duration: 6 Minutes 19 Seconds
Date: 1/28/2023
Time(s): 7:04 AM 12:06 PM

Guests: PennDOT secretary Yassmin Gramian, PA Labor and Industry Secretary Jennifer Berrier, Lt. Adam Reed, PSP, Moriah Hathaway, Executive Director of the PA Commission on Women.

Topics: All of the speakers spoke about the problem of human trafficking and efforts to combat it. The key to successfully reducing the number of human trafficking is educating people about the problem and sensitizing people to the warning signs of someone being trafficked.

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Issue No. 1: Education and Broadband Issues (continued)

Program Title: Special Assignment
Source/Type: Local/Public Affairs
Duration: 5 Minutes 47 Seconds
Date: 3/18/2023
Time(s): 7:04 AM 12:06 PM

Guests: Sophie Chan, staff member of Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, Kyle Kaurin, senior pastor of Grace Point Church.

Topics: Both speakers spoke about the need for college students to be made aware of spiritual issues from the Bible and the methods that Intervarsity uses to reach college students. This was part 1 in a series of programs on college ministry.

Program Title: Special Assignment
Source/Type: Local/Public Affairs
Duration: 5 Minutes 32 Seconds
Date: 2/11/2023
Time(s): 7:04 AM 12:06 PM

Guests: PA Treasurer, Stacy Garrity, and PA state senator Gene Yaw.

Topics: Both speakers talked about the efforts of PA government to help Pennsylvania save money for higher education through the PA 529 program and Keystone Scholars program.

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 20 seconds
Date: 01/05/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

Those involved Pennsylvania's school funding case are celebrating Tuesday's Commonwealth Court ruling that all schools in the state be supported equally.

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Issue No. 1: Education and Broadband Issues (continued)

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 45 seconds
Date: 01/03/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

The superintendent of two rural Pennsylvania school districts is making the case for improving broadband internet access in rural communities.

Dr. Rob Postupac, Superintendent of the Western Beaver County School District and the Blackhawk School District talks about what they've had to do to address the area's lack of adequate access. [rural-broadband1.mp3]

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 35 seconds
Date: 01/05/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

Governor Tom Wolf and the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) Foundation announced that the Wolf Administration will be providing \$5 million in grant funds for a new scholarship program for Commonwealth of Pennsylvania employees and their dependents who are pursuing higher education at a State System university.

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 55 seconds
Date: 01/09/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

A school superintendent who won Pennsylvania superintendent of the year and has experience in both wealthy and poor districts will be Gov.-elect Josh Shapiro's nominee for secretary of education. The incoming Democratic governor said Monday that Khalid Mumin will be nominated after Shapiro is inaugurated Jan. 17.

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Issue No. 2: Agriculture and Environmental Issues

Program Title: Special Assignment
Source/Type: Local/Public Affairs
Duration: 5 Minutes 21 Seconds
Date: 3/11/2023
Time(s): 7:04 AM 12:06 PM

Guests: Jamie and Randy Loch, of Loch's Maple Syrup of Springville, PA.

Topics: Jamie and Randy talked about the maple syrup business, especially in NEPA. They gave some history on the maple syrup industry and their personal maple syrup business.

Program Title: Special Assignment
Source/Type: Local/Public Affairs
Duration: 5 Minutes 23 Seconds
Date: 1/21/2023
Time(s): 7:04 AM 12:06 PM

Guests: Cheryl Cook, Pa deputy secretary of Agriculture, Jeff Moyer, CEO of the Roydale Institute, Pa state senator Elder Vogel, Pa state senator Judy Schwank.

Topics: All the speaker talked about the importance and growth of organic farming in PA. Moyer focused particularly on science of organic farming and protecting natural resources.

Program Title: Special Assignment
Source/Type: Local/Public Affairs
Duration: 5 Minutes 53 Seconds
Date: 1/14/2023
Time(s): 7:04 AM 12:06 PM

Guest: Liz LoSchiavo, Montrose area farmer.

Topics: Liz talked about a farming magazine that her and her husband produce called 'Northeast Family Farming' as part of the farming community. Part 1 of 2 part series.

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Issue No. 2: Agriculture and Environmental Issues (continued)

Program Title: Special Assignment
Source/Type: Local/Public Affairs
Duration: 6 Minutes 00 Seconds
Date: 2/4/2023
Time(s): 7:04 AM 12:06 PM

Guests: Ramez Siadeh, DEP acting secretary, Dr. Denise Johnson, Acting secretary of Health, Robert Lewis, DEP Program Radon Manager.

Topics: All the speakers talked about the dangers of radon gas exposure and the negative Health ramifications. Each talked about aspects of prevention, mitigation and education to help the public be more aware and prevent negative consequences.

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 45 seconds
Date: 01/03/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

With the holiday season now over, Pennsylvanians with live Christmas trees are encouraged to recycle them. Radio PA's Mark Sims reports. [treerecycling-w.mp3]

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 40 seconds
Date: 01/03/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

Large crowds are expected to return for the 107th Pennsylvania Farm Show which is set to begin this weekend. PA Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding says this year's theme isRooted In Progress..[FarmShowPreview5.mp3]

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Issue No. 2: Agriculture and Environmental Issues (continued)

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 35 seconds
Date: 01/05/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

The PA Department of Agriculture is offering a list of guidelines for farmers considering devoting a portion of their land to the generation of solar energy. Agriculture officials say the new guidelines offer farmers a way to enhance their income from the hosting of solar panels without jeopardizing crop production.

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 50 seconds
Date: 01/06/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

The Biden administration is proposing tougher standards for a deadly air pollutant, saying that reducing soot from tailpipes, smokestacks and wildfires could prevent thousands of premature deaths a year. A proposal released today by the Environmental Protection Agency would set maximum levels, 9-10 micrograms of fine particle pollution per cubic meter of air.

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 1 minute 20 seconds
Date: 01/09/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

The 2022 State of the Bay report grades the Chesapeake with a "D-Plus." This is due in part to little fluctuation of numerous indicators, and climate change. Harry Campbell is PA Science Policy and Advocacy Director; he says the commitments to pollution reduction do not match with action, and adds the new head of the DEP must put people first. [bay3.mp3]

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Issue No. 2: Agriculture and Environmental Issues (continued)

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 1 minute 05 seconds
Date: 02/02/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

Research by Penn State has uncovered new information about the invasive Spotted Lanternfly, which is now present throughout most of Pennsylvania. An interdisciplinary research group has learned how lanternfly seeding affects plants and trees, largely through controlled studies. Emelia Swackhamer is a Horticulture Educator at Penn State Extension [lanternflyresearch1.mp3] Q...in spring.

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 40 seconds
Date: 02/03/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

For the first time this year, an outbreak Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza has been reported in Pennsylvania. Correspondent David Payne reports. [HPAICases.mp3]

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 1 minute 15 seconds
Date: 02/06/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

Officials in Pennsylvania continue to monitor a freight train explosion just across the state line in eastern Ohio, where flames and evacuations continue. Governor Josh Shapiro held a news conference at about 1:45 this afternoon to update Pennsylvanians on the situation. [josh1] Shapiro discussed the danger from the derailed train cars. [josh2] People living near the site of the derailment are being encouraged to evacuate. [josh3]

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Issue No. 2: Agriculture and Environmental Issues (continued)

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 55 seconds
Date: 02/20/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

For the first time ever, turkey hunters on Long Island will get a chance to hunt during the spring thanks to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (or DEC) on Friday announced the dates for the first-ever spring Long Island wild turkey hunting season.

Issue No. 3: Elder Issues

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 38 seconds
Date: 02/03/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

Pennsylvania's Department of Aging is encouraging more seniors to volunteer with the agency. Radio PA's Mark Sims reports. [agingvolunteers-w.mp3]

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 25 seconds
Date: 02/04/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

PA Dept. of Aging Secretary Torres discussed seniors and says volunteer opportunities at the Department of Aging include being a PA MEDI counselor, helping at senior centers and delivering meals. OC: these volunteer opportunities

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Issue No. 4: Drug and Alcohol Issues

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 1 minute 30 seconds
Date: 01/04/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

New York State Police issued 32,934 tickets and arrested 453 people for impaired driving during the National DWI Crackdown which started on Wednesday, December 14, 2022, and continued through New Year's Day on Sunday, January 1, 2023. Troopers arrested 453 people for DWI and investigated 4,417 accidents, which resulted in 528 people being injured and eight fatalities. . In the Southern Tier.....898 speeding tickets were issued during the enforcement period....as well as 23 dwi arrests....55 distracted driving tickets....36 child restraint tickets....and 29 tickets for failure to move over to another lane for an emergency vehicle alongside a roadway. Meanwhile.....a new Triple-A study finds that dangerous driving behaviors are on the rise. [driving-behaviors1.mp3]

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 50 seconds
Date: 01/05/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

Pennsylvania employers and their employees are encouraged to take advantage of a new initiative to learn more about drug and alcohol addiction. [just-five1.mp3]: , says the "Just Five" website is designed to help people learn more about drug and alcohol addiction. Steve Ross, Special Assistant to the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs Secretary [just-five3.mp3]: Ross says a link to the "Just Five" website can be found on the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs website. OC: minutes to complete. Mr. Ross says increased awareness can lead to increased understanding.

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Issue No. 5: Community Activities, Issues and Programs

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 55 seconds
Date: 01/04/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

High School students in Lackawanna...Luzerne...Pike and Susquehanna Counties have taken part in PennDot's Paint the Plow outreach program....aimed at promoting winter driving safety. Students from 13 school districts...including Abington Heights, Carbondale, Dunmore, Montrose, Mountain View...Scranton and and Susquehanna painted plow blades.

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 30 seconds
Date: 01/04/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

With many residents experiencing skyrocketing utility bills, New Yorkers are struggling and in need of assistance with their heating bills as winter weather drags on. A safety net for eligible NYS residents is HEAP, New York State's Home Energy Assistance Program.

Issue No. 6: Health Issues

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 45 seconds
Date: 01/06/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

A new law recently signed by New York State Governor Kathy Hochul will allow the state to reimburse living organ donors up to \$10,000 for expenses related to donating an organ. According to a report by Julie S. Keenan of Healio, New York State Governor Kathy Hochul recently signed the New York State Living Donor Support Act.

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Issue No. 6: Health Issues (continued)

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 35 seconds
Date: 01/06/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

In this new year, Pennsylvania's top health official is encouraging state residents to make it a habit to always have the opioid overdose reversal drug Naloxone on hand. Dr. Denise Johnson, says Pennsylvanians can obtain Naloxone from their local pharmacy.

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 1 minute 25 seconds
Date: 01/09/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

New York State is still combatting COVID-19 as nearly 1,600 New Yorkers have died due to COVID since December 1st. The culprit is the new highly contagious Omicron variant called XBB.1.5. Experts now warn outbreaks may only get worse during a post-holiday wave. New York Governor Kathy Hochul issued a statement on the continued threat of COVID.

Issue No. 7: Transportation Issues

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 35 seconds
Date: 01/06/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

Tolls are once again set to increase on the Pennsylvania Turnpike this weekend. The five percent increase will occur at 12:01 Sunday morning, but as in recent years, it will have the biggest effect on motorists without EZ-Pass.

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Issue No. 7: Transportation Issues (continued)

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 50 seconds
Date: 02/03/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

Gasoline prices in Pennsylvania which have increased in recent weeks may now be headed in the opposite direction. Correspondent Mark Sims reports. [gasprices-w.mp3]

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 45 seconds
Date: 03/24/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

A Scranton to New York City passenger train could be rolling by the year 2028, carrying more than 300,000 riders in its first year and approaching 500,000 just two years later, according to an Amtrak study released this week. Amtrak assumes a system designed with train speeds allowing travel between the cities in three hours or less, even with seven stops along the way, the study shows. The travel time matters because private buses typically take 2½ to 3 hours, though buses don't make seven stops. On the straight, 28-mile Lackawanna Cutoff in northern New Jersey, trains could travel up to 110 mph. Amtrak would start with three trains daily in each direction. The study does not specify fares, but assumes ridership won't cover all operating costs and New Jersey and Pennsylvania will have to contribute. The study estimates annual revenues at almost \$13.3 million and operating costs at more than \$19.1 million. Amtrak Chief Executive Officer Stephen Gardner is voicing support for the proposal, saying,

“Restoring and expanding this corridor with daily multi-frequency service would dramatically boost mobility and economic development for residents of Scranton and Northeastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and the broader Northeast region,”

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Issue No. 8: Economic Issues

Program Title: Special Assignment
Source/Type: Local/Public Affairs
Duration: 5 Minutes 15 Seconds
Date: 2/18/2023
Time(s): 7:04 AM 12:06 PM

Guests: PA PUC commissioner, Kathryn Zerfuss, and Vice chair of the PUC, Stephen DeFrank.

Topics: As part of one of the PUC regular monthly meetings, the commissioners discussed natural gas prices and the proposal to raise the rate charged customers with Leatherstocking LLC and how, though it is regrettable that the rates need to go up (sharply) it is reasonable, so the commissioners justified and approved the rate increase.

Program Title: WPEL News
Source/Type: Local/News
Duration: 45 seconds
Date: 03/30/2023
Time(s): 5 & 6 pm newscasts

Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro traveled to a poultry farm in Lancaster County for an update on the recent outbreak of HPAI, or bird flu.

Gov. Shapiro was joined by Lancaster County state Senator Scott Martin [ShapiroBirdFlu-6.mp3] Senator Martin called on farmers who have suffered losses due to bird flu to log onto agriculture.pa.gov, and apply for compensation.

This report has been prepared by David MacFadden.